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(71) Applicant: EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY  
Rochester, New York 14650 (US)

(72) Inventors:

• Lee, Paul P., c/o Eastman Kodak Company  
Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)

• Bernstein, Lawrence J.,  
c/o Eastman Kodak Company  
Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)  
• Guidash, Robert Michael,  
c/o Eastman Kodak Company  
Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)  
• Lee, Teh-Hsuang, c/o Eastman Kodak Company  
Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)

(74) Representative:  
Lewandowsky, Klaus, Dipl.-Ing. et al  
Kodak Aktiengesellschaft,  
Patentabteilung  
70323 Stuttgart (DE)

(54) A CMOS active pixel digital camera

(57) An image sensor device comprising a silicon substrate having a plurality of CMOS circuit formed thereon, including a pixel array having a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, a row addressing circuit operatively connected to each the pixel array and the timing control circuit, the row addressing circuit having a row bus that provides address lines to each row in the pixel array, a column addressing circuit, a pixel timing circuit, a timing control logic block, a signal processing circuit, and an interface circuit coupled to external computational means for provision of address and control signals to the sensor device, the interface circuit being operatively coupled the timing control logic, the pixel timing circuit, the row addressing circuit and the column addressing circuit.

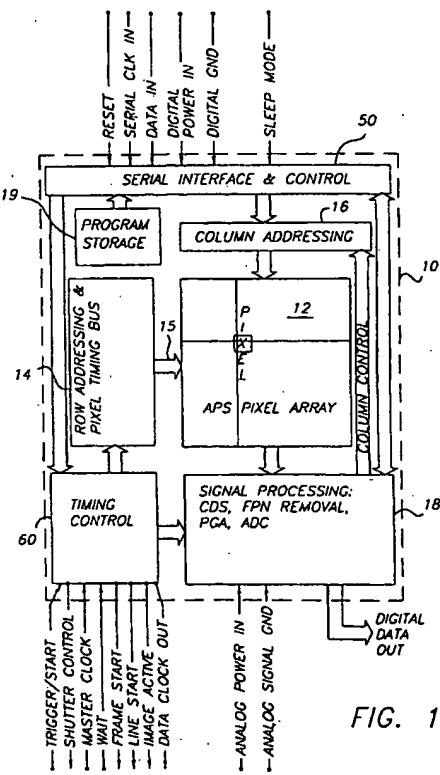


FIG. 1



European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 20 0052

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
X	<p>NIKON R H ET AL: "256X256 CMOS ACTIVE PIXEL SENSOR CAMERA-ON-A-CHIP" IEEE INTERNATIONAL SOLID STATE CIRCUITS CONFERENCE, US, IEEE INC. NEW YORK, vol. 39, 1 February 1996 (1996-02-01), pages 178-179, 440, XP000685585 ISSN: 0193-6530 * the whole document *</p> <p>-----</p>	1-10	H04N3/15 H04N5/235
X	<p>FOSSUM E R: "DIGITAL CAMERA SYSTEM ON A CHIP" IEEE MICRO, US, IEEE INC. NEW YORK, vol. 18, no. 3, 1 May 1998 (1998-05-01), pages 8-15, XP000755752 ISSN: 0272-1732 Chapter "System on a Chip", figures 6,7 Chapter "Rapid rate of progress"</p> <p>-----</p>	1,2,5-10	
A	<p>NAKAMURA J ET AL: "ON-FOCAL-PLANE SIGNAL PROCESSING FOR CURRENT-MODE ACTIVE PIXEL SENSORS" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON ELECTRON DEVICES, US, IEEE INC. NEW YORK, vol. 44, no. 10, 1 October 1997 (1997-10-01), pages 1747-1758, XP000703889 ISSN: 0018-9383 * figure 13 *</p> <p>-----</p>	1-10	<p>TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)</p> <p>H04N</p>
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		15 December 2000	De Paepe, W
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
<p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p>		<p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>	